

2009-489-E

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Public Service Commission of S.C  
Att: Docketing Dept,

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Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Due to budget cuts at DDSN many people will be affected. This includes their medication, rehabilitation, housing, transportation and their very survival. I can not stress enough how many these individuals rely on the government to take care of them.

If you can, remember the teenager that jumped from a moving Ambulance that was autistic because they would not listen to his mother who was trying to explain his situation. My son stay's in a residential program with S.C Mentor and this is the reason that I'm writing this letter. The last visit home I took my son back to Columbia, SC where his lives only to find the back door is broken and unlocked, also he lives up-over a garage which is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and has a knee that is in need of surgery.

Just recently he was accused of assault from another young man that lived in the home with him and the client passed away in his sleep due to a diabetic coma.

They over medicate the children and young men that live in these type facilities to deal with them and tell them that if they behave they will reduce the medications. He doesn't work or go to school. My son is 24 and he can not read, write or do math. What does that say about our system? I know that there are many kids out there worse off than my son  
The elderly are also being affected by these budget cuts

because they take a lot of medicine to survive. I'm tired of seeing the people who wants to give back to there community suffer and do with-out food, housing, higher-taxes and utilities. Where are our problem-solvers? I am sure you receive letters like mine all the time, but I have no where to turn. With having a disabled child I see this everyday! I am a concerned taxes-payer and would like to see some changes.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.  
Sincerely,

Ms. Michele Odell

PS I am again any rates that raise Utility, cigarettes taxes and cutes Medication to only 3 prescription a month.